

Berkshire Orienteers



Newsletter

September 2008



The British Schools Orienteering Championships Weekend 2008

Nov 15th Frith Hill hosted by **SN**

Nov 16th Hawley and Hornley Common hosted by **BKO**

The BSOC weekend is the highlight of the schools orienteering year, being held annually in November at different locations around the country. This event is promoted by the British Orienteering Federation to suit pupils from a wide range of ages and abilities and to boost participation in orienteering for as many British schools as we can. It also aims to reward performance in schools' orienteering by providing a good level of competition.

The main event for 2008 returns to Hawley and Hornley (where it was held previously many years ago), with a training event on the previous day at Frith Hill for all schools entering, and also selection races for the ISF World School Championships in 2009 to be held in Spain.

Schools from across the country will be descending on us for a weekend of superb competition, with courses offered suitable from Year 5 upwards (White Standard) to Year 13 running at full technical standard. Being a schools event brings with it a number of extra requirements compared to a normal event. For a start, a number of parallel courses have to be planned at most levels. The event should be enhanced with commentary, plenty of adults to be visible as 'helpers'; a speedy results service, and a prompt (and large) prize giving. Goody bags, certificates and mementoes are required, so any sponsorship which can be provided is of course very welcome.

Bryce Gibson has volunteered to be the overall weekend organiser/coordinator, with SN running Day 1 and BKO running Day 2. Tim Booth and Liz Yeadon are the planners, with Alain Wilkes as the organiser on the day. A large number of helpers will be required, so please volunteer your services as it makes life so much easier if organisers do not have to resort to ringing around.

As BKO has put substantial efforts into improving our links with local schools, we are hoping to encourage as many as possible to participate in these championships, as is SN following on from their work with Surrey and N. Hants schools. There is no minimum number of entries required per school, so even where there are just 1 or 2 interested pupils, they can still take part, as long as they enter via their schools. It is hoped to get some interest from Wokingham and Bracknell Schools, especially in the Crowthorne and Sandhurst areas; from schools who participated in the Berkshire Schools Orienteering Festival earlier this year at Bulmershe; and from some of the West Berkshire schools with whom Clare Westall at Adventure Dolphin has been working.

To this end BKO are putting on a number of our Saturday events, starting on Sep 6th at Swinley West, to give prospective participants the pre-championships experience that they will require (to have completed 3 courses of the appropriate Colour standard prior to the event)

Entry forms should be available to download from the British Schools Orienteering Association website, www.bsoa.org. Please put the date in your diary – either to come along and help, or to support children who you may have entered in the event. Lets make this a really special day for the juniors, which will not only provide top rate competition for the experienced participants, but also give a real taste of the buzz and excitement of the sport to those who are newcomers to it.

Denise Harper

Some Useful Orienteering Websites - Alan Yeadon

This short article describes the content of some websites that I have found useful and that I use on a regular basis. Of course, there are many more sites of information which can be found in links from the British Orienteering website at www.britishorienteering.org.uk which gives links to information on orienteering clubs, fixtures, rules, guide lines and much more.

One of the important bits of information one gets from event flyers or web information is the grid reference of the event or perhaps the OS grid reference where directions to the event start. A useful tool in finding out where the sites are, without having to use the OS map is to go to www.streetmap.co.uk

Click on the OS grid option (x,y) and feed in your required site e.g. SU 787718 (Dinton Pastures), select **search** and you will be taken to a map showing its location.

Google maps (www.maps.google.co.uk) is extremely useful in that you can use the **directions** command to plan your route from home or wherever you may be to the required destination. You can zoom in on the destination and get a satellite view of the area where you will be orienteering.

A useful site which will indicate forthcoming fixtures where you live or happen to be is Oliver O'Brien's excellent website at www.oobrien.com/map Now feed in the postcode where you live (or where you will be) and you will be taken to a map with coloured, numbered flags. The house in the centre of the map shows where you live (or will be) and the numbered flags are the sites of the orienteering events that are coming up in the next 10 weeks. So that those bearing the number 1 will occur this coming weekend. If you click on the flag you get information where the event is and the host club. Further details of the events are listed under the map. A useful feature is that the distance from the stated home to the event is given so you can work out the (huge!) petrol cost in getting there.

The latest versions of OCAD will enable one to plan courses on an OCAD map. However, it is possible to plan courses based on either an OCAD map or a picture file such as a BMP or JPG file of the area if you use the extremely useful Purple Pen software. Full information about this software can be obtained from www.purplepen.golde.org Full instruction on its use can be found here and I can assure you that it can be used easily to produce the usual all controls map and maps showing individual courses and also having the full list of control descriptions, course length etc. shown on the map. The well know CONDES program which is often used to plan courses costs 300 Euros and OCAD 9 will cost 374 Euros plus VAT. N.B. OCAD 6 is available as free software but I don't think it has course planning features but you could use it to create maps.

One thing that all these very useful programmes i.e. Streetmap, Google maps, Oliver O'Brien's event location programme and Purple Pen have is (yes you all know I come from Yorkshire.....where we're all keen on't brass!)

THEY ARE FREE!

CROESO 2008 - by Alan Springett

Ten members of BKO made the trip to South Wales for the Welsh 6 Days in early August. Four of the ten completed the four events required for a placing in the overall results, one of them coming second overall and another third. BKO also achieved one individual first on one of the days.

New BKO O tops were much in evidence. Were they being washed each night, did we sell 60 to these 10 competitors or were they simply being re-cycled?.....I can only speak for Catherine, and I would prefer not to!

As ever the event was well-organised and provided a relaxed and energetic way to enjoy a variety of Welsh locations. It is no reflection on the orienteering that the word most likely to come to mind when recalling the event is 'wet'! OK, so the sun showed its face on Day 5, but the price of that was a quite remarkably wet final day. All credit to the organisers that there were no significant problems with parking.

The event centre was at Bryn Bach Country Park just north of Tredegar. Five of the six days were on open moorland. Two of the open areas, Pwll Du and Clydach Terrace, were highly complex due to extensive old mine workings. Day 4 provided a complete change of terrain in the woods at Wentwood West. Day 5 at Mynydd Y Garn was on a totally new area for orienteering. This offered mainly fast running over open terrain. Assembly on Day 6 afforded a good view over rain-lashed Clydach. This was a new area for Catherine and me, but proved more demanding in prospect than practice due to a number of paths and clear features such as ponds - none of which spared me from an 86 minute



Learn Welsh while Orienteering.
(Though not necessarily the correct pronunciation)

Berkshire Orienteers

soaking on M55S – my longest outing since my heart attack and by-pass surgery in April/May.

Peter Bennett achieved the best overall placing, finishing second in M65S. Catherine Springett was 3rd overall in W50S. Catherine was also first on Day 6. (Catherine and Peter were in fact running the same course, as were Reg and Anne Parker). Ken Ricketts was 13th overall at M50S and Stefan Stasusik was 20th overall at M55L.

The full BKO performance is summarised in the table below:

Competitor	Regional Event Position	Colour Coded Position
Peter Bennett (M65S)	3rd/2nd/4th/3rd/3rd/2nd (2nd overall)	
Darrell Cruckshank (M80)	--/--/--/4th/--/--	
Anne Parker (W70)	--/8th/--/8th/--/--	--/--/--/--/14th Orange/--
Reg Parker (M75)	--/17th/14th/16th/--/--	--/--/--/--/19th Orange/--
Ken Ricketts (M50S)	16th/24th/8th/32nd/13th/4th (13th overall)	
Michael Ricketts (M14)		--/--/--/6th Orange/--/8th Orange
Alan Springett (M55S)	--/16th/--/--/--/19th	--/--/14th Lt Gr/5th Orange/4th Orange/--
Catherine Springett (W50S)	2nd/6th/3rd/7th/7th/1st (3rd overall)	
Stefan Stasusik (M55L)	--/6th/18th/--/19th/14th (20th overall)	
Martin Wilson (M60L)	--/--/28th/--/--/8th	

Before the Gold Rush

Something which appears to have been overlooked in all the euphoric Olympic coverage is the key role played by Orienteering in getting things off to a good start.

On the 20th July at the World Championships in the Czech Republic the GB men's team of Graham Gristwood, Jon Duncan and Jamie Stevenson won the Relay, the first time GB has had a Gold in the event.

News obviously seeped through the Olympic teams as they made their final preparations for Beijing and the rest is history. Goodness knows what kind of inspirational effect will be produced in 2012 if BKO put in a good performance in the CompassSport Cup that year!

Berkshire Orienteers Officials

Chairman: Eric Harper Telephone 0118-948-2934 e-mail eric.harper@ntlworld.com

Secretary: Reg Parker, 10 Patrick Road, Caversham , Reading RG4 8DD
Telephone 0118-947-1344 e-mail reganne@talk21.com

Treasurer: Peter Entwistle Telephone 01628-635278 e-mail peterentwistle@btinternet.com

Fixtures Secretary Liz Yeadon Telephone 01672-563840 e-mail: liz.turbin@tiscali.co.uk

Membership Secretary: Alan Springett 07712-672712 e-mail: cat.spring@virgin.net

Committee Members :

Neil Frankum	Telephone 0118-975-1528	e-mail: neil@frankum.co.uk
Brian Burt	Telephone 01344-300-834	e-mail brianburt@cw.com
Tim Booth	Telephone 0118 973 4662	e-mail webmaster@bko.org.uk
Katy Stubbs	Telephone 0118-978-2875	e-mail katystubbs@f2s.com
Keith McCarthy	Telephone 01344 771890	e-mail krcmccarthy@yahoo.co.uk

Newsletter : Andrew Graham 108a School Road, Tilehurst, Reading RG31 5AX
Telephone 0118 9433029 e-mail: drumble55@hotmail.com

BKO E-mail Group

Please note there is a very useful BKO members e-mail group. To join the group you have to ask to subscribe to the group by e-mail to bko-mailing-list@bko.org.uk

Any message to this one address goes automatically to all current members of that group. You can leave the group by sending a message to that address that you wish to unsubscribe.

If you have changed your e-mail address or if the Club does not have your e-mail address then please send details to either Alan Springett, Membership Secretary, or to Reg Parker, BKO Secretary.

Colour Code Standard badges

If you have achieved the required standard on colour coded courses you may apply for a badge. For further details apply to Bryce Gibson, telephone 0118-947-2220

Saturday Series

Saturday 10 May saw the last of the 2007-08 season of Saturday morning events. These are aimed at beginners and improvers as well as anyone else who wants to come along for a run. As you can see from the table below (based on a rather rough assessment from the results so there may be some double counting of juniors who did more than one course on the day) there were some really good turn-outs. The events were well supported by a number of schools including St. Andrews Bradfield, Broadmoor and Altwood. Inevitably some mums and dads come along as well so they get a chance to join in the fun at the same time.

A tremendous amount of work goes into planning and putting on these events so a huge vote of thanks goes to the Saturday team lead by Reg Parker for all their commitment. These low key events also offer the opportunity for willing volunteers to have their first go at planning and organising events so if anyone is interested in helping out in any way during the coming season please contact Reg (contact details in the list of BKO officials).

Date	Location	Juniors	Adults	Total
22 Sept	Swinley West	45	11	56
13 Oct	Benyon's Enclosure	20	11	31
10 Nov	Dinton Pastures	51	9	60
1 Dec	Langley Park	21	9	30
19 Jan	Swinley East	45	15	60
23 Feb	Burghfield	43	15	58
15 Mar	Bloom Wood	61	34	95
10 May	Rushall Woods	80	6	86

The 2008-2009 season kicks off on 6th September at Swinley West. (**Registration:** 10.00am; **Starts:** 10.30 – 11.30am). By that time it may have stopped raining and we could be enjoying a spectacular late summer. Provisional dates for the rest of the season are:

Date	Location	GR	Planners
6 September	Swinley West	SU 901682	Eric Harper
20 September	Eagle House School	SU 837625	Denise and Eric Harper
18 October	Swinley East	SU 904660	Peter Entwistle
8 November	Burghfield	SU 645651	Chris Speed
6 December	Lily Hill Park	SU 884682	? ? ? ? ?
17 January	Dinton Pastures	SU 785718	Alan Yeadon
TBA February	Benyons Enclosure	SU 632643	Andrew Graham
TBA March	Bloom Wood	SU 861890	? ? ? ? ?
25 April	Langley Park	TQ 013823	? ? ? ? ?
9 May	Rushall Wood	SU 576735	? ? ? ? ?

BERKSHIRE ORIENTEERS



Invite you to a
District Event, SCOA League and Yvette Baker Regional
Preliminary Round
on Sunday 12th October 2008
at Burghfield Common (Benyons Inclosure)

- Venue:** Burghfield Common – Benyons Inclosure
- Parking:** Along forest rides. Entrance, GR: SU630642. Signed from N and E the round-about at SW of Burghfield Common at SU648661 and from the S and W at the junction at SU615640.
- Terrain:** Fairly flat working coniferous forest with good path/ride network.
- Fees:** BOF Seniors £7.00; Non-BOF Seniors £9.00; Juniors £2.00
- E.P.S:** Emit. Emit Hire: £1.00 (Seniors only).
- Map:** 1:10,000 with 5m contours. Map updated 2008.
- Courses:** Full range of colour coded courses - White to Brown + String.
- Times:** Registration: 09.30 – 12.00 hrs. Start Times: 10.00 – 12.30 hrs.
Courses Close: 14.30 hrs.
- Start/Finish:** Adjacent to Parking/Registration area.
- Facilities:** Toilets,. Squash/water at finish. A first-aid kit will be located at enquiries.
- Dogs:** On leads in car park area; under control in the forest
- Organiser:** Eric Harper (BKO) Tel: 0118 9482934
- Planner:** Dan Straka (BKO)
- Controller:** Mark Thompson (TVOC)
- Participants take part in this event at their own risk and are responsible for their own safety.*

Other future Berkshire Orienteers' events

Please note new date above for the Burghfield Common event. This has been changed from 5th October. If anyone is willing and able to help on the day please contact Eric Harper as soon as possible.

Date	Location	Event
16 th November	Hawley	British Schools Championships
25 th January	Yateley and Minley	Concorde Chase

British Championships British Relay Championships 2009 **Date changed to Feb 28th - March 1st**

We apologise to competitors that the date of the 2009 British Championships has had to be moved to the weekend of the 28 February/1 March 2009 from the original date 14/15 March 2009. Although agreement had been reached with the Forestry Commission for the original dates, an external environmental body had raised concerns to the Forestry Commission about potential damage to wildlife if the event went ahead at this time. Negotiations with the Forestry Commission indicated that they would rescind the agreement as is allowed by the contract.

Since receiving this news, lengthy negotiations have been conducted with the Forestry Commission, land owners and British Orienteering (Events Committee and Major Events Group) to determine the best alternative for the event and to obtain new permissions and permits. Options to move the event to another region, another area within South Central or to another time of the year were all considered. However, using the current area at the end of February was considered the most viable choice. We regret the difficulties this will cause other event organisers who had planned to use the selected dates or dates nearby.

We realise that some competitors may already have paid deposits for accommodation and travel tickets for the original date. We deeply regret that the decision to change the date has been brought about by circumstances completely beyond our control and for any inconvenience caused to competitors by this situation. Competitors who have paid in advance for accommodation or travel are recommended to consult the cancellation section of their travel or accommodation agreement and try to seek to renegotiate those contracts or seek recompense from their travel insurance, home insurance or credit card insurance.

Mike Hamilton, BOF Chief Executive. Jerry Newcombe, BOC Coordinator

(N.B. BKO will probably volunteer to do Start on day 1 and help with computing on relay day.)

Training

Katy Stubbs is running a number of courses for budding event organisers and planners. The organisers' courses were very successful and Katy is now offering a course for planners on Saturday 25th October in Crowthorne. The course is aimed at less experienced/novice planners and covers planning District (colour-coded) events. The course will be a full day, including a short practical exercise. The course is open to all SCOA members, and there will be no charge. Please reply to Katy Stubbs, katystubbs@f2s.com (preferred) or 07801 710641 by the end of September.

We may be organising First Aid training in the future to ensure that we have some cover for this at the lower-key events. If anyone is interested in this could they get in touch with Reg Parker in the first instance.

Travel & Trek

Many orienteers like the great outdoors and if you want to experience some wonderful adventure holidays in exotic places then visit the website of former Army Orienteer Terry Crosby: www.travelandtrek.com Dates for Treks in the spring of 2009 are now up on the website and include:

Rhododendron Trek, Pokhara – Jomson Trek, Annapurna Circuit, Everest Base Camp, Mera Peak, Island Peak, Combined EBC/Island Peak, Darjeeling' Sikkim, Ladakh (Aug 09), The Sahara Desert, Morocco's Toubkal (winter and summer), Other Morocco Treks.

Some Local Fixtures Sept - Nov 2008

Every effort is made to make this information as accurate and up to date as possible. To be on the safe side, please check that the event has not been cancelled or arrangements have not changed by looking at the appropriate website before leaving home.

SEPTEMBER 2008

Saturday 6th	SN C5 Junior League & Local Event. Whitmoor, Camberley. SU987543 Jane Archer jane.archer7@ntlworld.com Start 10:30 to 12:00. www.southernnavigator.com
Sunday 7th	SOC C4 District Event & SCOA League Event & Long O. Redshoot, New Forest, Lyndhurst. SU193093. David & Mary Nixon, 01794 516298 (before 9.30pm). mary_david_nixon@yahoo.co.uk Starts - 9.30 -11 for long O. www.southampton-orienteers.org.uk
Sunday 7th	HH C4 District Event. Sherrardspark Wood, Welwyn Garden City. TL228141. Colin Webster, 01582 765546. jngostick@ntlworld.com www.happyherts.org.uk
Saturday 13th	SO C5S Sussex Sprint Series 2008. The Hawth, Crawley. TQ277360. Robert Lines, 01273 770315. Starts 10.00 - 11.00. www.southdowns-orienteers.org.uk/index/events
Sunday 14th	WIM C4 District & SW Galoppen & YBT Qualifier. Turf Hill & Godshill, Fordingbridge. SU213178. Keith Henderson, 0142 5476568. keith-kate.alwayslate@virgin.net www.wimborne-orienteers.org.uk
Sunday 14th	MV C4 District & YBT Round. Norbury Park, Leatherhead. TQ148550 Neil Lewer, 01737 769453. neil.lewer@madasafish.com www.mvoc.org
Saturday & Sunday 20th & 21st	Caddihoe Chase Weekend 20th - Day 1 C3 Regional Event & SWOA Champs. Hamptworth Estate, Nomansland, Hants. SU237182. 21st - Day 2 O3 Chasing Start. Hamptworth Estate, Nomansland, Hants SU237182. Organiser: Jan Belza, 01980 652249 Entries: Stephen Robinson, 18 Hanson Road, Andover, Hants, SP10 3HL 01264 396655 Online entry preferred via www.ntrees.co.uk . www.sarumo.org.uk Closing date for entries 06/09/08

Saturday 27th	WIGHTO C4 District & SCOA League Event. The Needles/Headon Warren, Freshwater, IOW. <u>SZ321854</u> . Iris Fay, 01983 741092.
Sunday 28th	WIGHTO C4 District & SCOA League Event. Ventnor Downs, Ventnor, IOW. <u>SZ565785</u> . Iris Fay, 01983 741092.
Sunday 28th	HAVOC C4 District Event & EAGAL. Epping SW, Chingford. <u>TQ394949</u> . Janet Biggs, 020 8883 2338. jbiggs6@tesco.net www.orienteeing-havoc.co.uk
OCTOBER 2008	
Sunday 5th	SLOW C3 Regional Event, OK Nuts & SE Middle Distance Championships. Glovers Wood, Gatwick. TQ220406 . Organiser: Teresa Turner, 0130 6711201. teresamturner@googlemail.com Entries: Mike Garvin, 30 Belverdere Place, London, SW2 5TD, 020 7738 6570. entries08@sloweb.org.uk CD: 25/09/08. Online entry preferred at www.fabian4.co.uk/ . www.sloweb.org.uk
Saturday 11th	SLOW C4S City of London Race. City of London. TQ330817 Organiser and entries: Andrew Brown, Flat 18, Beauvale Ferdinand Street, Camden, London, NW1 8EY, 07917 821602. entries@cityrace.org CD: 30/09/08. Very Lim EOD Not suitable for Under 14s. Starts 10-12. Online entry preferred at www.fabian4.co.uk . www.cityrace.o
Sunday 12th <i>Note new date</i>	BKO C4 District & SCOA League Event. Burghfield Common, Mortimer. SU632643 . Liz Yeadon, 01672 563840. liz.turbin@tiscali.co.uk <i>www.bko.org.uk Note new date</i>
Sunday 12th	LOK C4 District Event. Hampstead Heath, London. TQ270859 Neil Brooks, 01494 872578. www.londonorienteeing.co.uk
Sunday 19th	BADO C4 District Event & SCOA League. Chawton Park, Alton. SU670373 Mike Broderick, 01256 351624. www.bado.org.uk
Sunday 26th	TVOC C4 District Event. Kingswood, High Wycombe. SU891941 Alun Jones, 01494 816946. alunandliz@tiscali.co.uk www.tvoc.org.uk

NOVEMBER 2008	
Sunday 2nd	SOC C3 Regional Event, November Classic. Ironswell, New Forest. Joe Parkinson, 023 8077 7939. jr.parkinson@btinternet.com Postal Entries: Terry Smith, Heath Cottage, North Road, Dibden Purlieu, Southampton, SO45 4RE, 02380 845787. terrysmith@compuserve.com CD: Postal & online: 05/10/08. No EOD. Entry limited to 1200. Online entries via www.ntrees.co.uk . www.southampton-orienteers.org.uk
Sunday 16th	BKO British Schools Championships. Hawley & Hornley, Camberley. SU819587. Liz Yeadon, 01672 563840. liz.turbin@tiscali.co.uk
Saturday 22nd	BADO C3N Southern Night Championships. Greenham Common, Newbury. SU500645 Organiser: Andy MacGregor, 0118 981 2598. andy.macgregor@btinternet.com Entries: Andy MacGregor, 12 Douro Close, Baughurst, Tadley, Hants, RG26 5PG, 0118 981 2598. andy.macgregor@btinternet.com CD: 08/11/08. No EOD. www.bado.org.uk
Sunday 23rd	CHIG C3 Regional Event. Broxbourne, Hoddesdon. TL340067 Ray Curtis, 01279 418699. curtis.rosemount@sky.com www.chig.org.uk
Sunday 23rd	BADO C4 District & SCOA League Event. Greenham Common, Newbury. SU500645 Andy MacGregor, 0118 981 2598. andy.macgregor@btinternet.com www.bado.org.uk
Thursday 27th	LOK C5N London's West End Night Street Score Event. Bloomsbury College, Malet St, London WCE 7HX. TQ298820 David Rosen, 07870 653321. dandmrosen@btopenworld.com Free. 1830-1915. www.londonorienteering.co.uk
Sunday 30th	SO C3 Regional Event & SE League. Broadstone Warren, Forest Row. TQ431324 Organiser: Bridget Hooper, 01342 322072. bridgethooper@btinternet.com Entries: Jaque Drake, East Cottage, Vuggles Farm, Newick, East Sussex, BN8 4RU, 01273 400603. entries@vuggles.co.uk CD: 16/11/08. Lim EOD. On line entries at www.vuggles.co.uk/broadstone.htm . www.southdowns-orienteers.org.uk

New Club Kit!

The new Berkshire Orienteers club O-top is now being worn and admired the world over (well at least in Portugal and, er, Wales). It comes in long and short-sleeved versions and initially comes at a subsidised price of £20. Please give Sue Wilkes a call on 01635-522-356 and she will be able to get you kitted up for the season ahead.